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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/741,846	12/22/2000	Richard P. Modelski	P 270184 NOR-13176BA	8545

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1600 Tysons Boulevard
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EXAMINER

THAI, XUAN MARIAN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2181

DATE MAILED: 11/05/2003

10

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/741,846

Applicant(s)

MODELSKI ET AL.

Examiner

XUAN M. THAI

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 October 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 and 18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 2-4, 7-16 and 18 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

RESPONSE TO AMENDMENT

1. This is in response to communications filed on October 22, 2003. Claims 2-4, 6, 9-16 and 18 were amended. Claim 17 was canceled. Claims 1-16 and 18 remain pending in the instant application.

Double Patenting

2. The objection to claim 17 is under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 16 is withdrawn due to the cancellation of claim 17.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1 and 5 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by “Tagged Inter Processor Communication Bus for Multiprocessor Systems” disclosed in the IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, August 1991 (hereinafter will be referenced as **Tagged**).

As per claim 1, **Tagged** reference discloses a method for transferring data comprising: providing a master request bus (master a bus request line; page 116, paragraph 8; fig. 1); providing a slave request bus (e.g. slave bus request line in D-bus; see page 116, paragraph 5; fig. 1); initiating an operation utilizing a protocol when a master request and an arbiter grant is received from the master request bus -- would be within the teachings of **Tagged** wherein **Tagged** states that:

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“A central arbitration scheme is used to grant access to either the A-bus, D-bus or both. A processor wanting to perform an IPC bus read cycle issues an A-bus read request, drives its requesting address and unique requester identifier (APID) when granted the bus, and then waits for a reply on the D-bus. Replies to read requests return on a subsequent D-bus cycle, tagged with the requester's unique processor-id on the DPID lines. That is, during the corresponding D-bus cycle, the DPID will contain the unique processor ID placed on the APID by the requester when the read request was issued. Similarly, a processor wanting to perform an IPC bus write cycle issues an A-bus write cycle request to the central arbiter, and then drives the appropriate buses when granted.” (page 116, para. 4).

wherein the protocol enables transfer of data between computer hardware (e.g. buses, processors and memories et cet.) operating according to different protocols – would be within teachings of **Tagged** since **Tagged** discloses master protocol and slave protocol.

As per claim 5, **Tagged** discloses a global access bus for transferring data, said global access bus comprising; a master request bus (e.g. master request bus lines of A-bus and D-bus, (W) request line); and a slave request bus (D-bus request line) operationally connected to said master request bus (e.g. D-bus request line); wherein said master request bus and said slave request bus utilize a protocol enabling transfer of data between computer hardware (e.g. processors – master; and memory – slave) operating according to different protocols (master device protocol and slave device protocol) [e.g. see pages 116-117; fig. 1].

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed October 22, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that “Nowhere in Tagged is there disclosed or suggested any system or method for transferring data that includes *a master request bus and a slave request bus*, ..., as in the present claims 1 and 5.” [Remarks, para. 5, page 6]. Applicant is directed to

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the passages cited in the rejection and as disclosed in Tagged. Tagged discusses that "Slave devices replying to read cycles [must] **request** the the D-bus for returning data, ECC, and data identifier". Additionally, a central arbiter comprising of two independent sections: one to service IPC bus master devices and one to service slave devices. The A-arbiter controls access to the A-bus and D-bus (for master devices), while the D-bus arbiter controls access to the D-bus (for slave devices). Thus, explicitly or implicitly, Tagged discloses there are separate request busses for the master and slave devices which advantageously utilizing two independent arbiters (A and D) to control accesses to the A-bus and the D-bus.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 2-4, 6-16 and 18 are allowed.

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to XUAN M. THAI whose telephone number is 703-308-2064. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on 703-305-4815. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.



XUAN M. THAI
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2181

XMT
November 3, 2003